8. Giudelines have been issued to State Governments from time to time for protection of forests. Some of these guidelines are as follows:

(i) to avoid clear felling of natural forests and where such fellings are inevitable for restoration of crop or other silvicultural considerations, it should be restricated to areas not exceeding 10 hectares in the hills and 25 hectares in the plains.

(ii) to consider banning of fellings in the hills above 1000 metres, at least for some years.

(iii) to identify critical areas in the hills and mountains which requires protection from felling of forests and need immediate vigorous afforestation.

(iv) to set apart 4 per cent of the geographical area as protection areas like wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, biosphere reserves etc.

Trade Balance

809. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the latest figures relating to the country's balance of trade position; and

(b) if the same is not favourably what are the reasons therefor and what steps are being taken to improve the balance of trade position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) According to the provisional trade statistics, India's balance of trade showed a deficit of Rs. 1335 crores during the first two months of the current financial year i.e. April—May, 1988.

(b) The reason for the trade deficit was due to high level of imports, which are essential for urgent needs of domestic consumption, export production and technological upgradation. The Government have already taken a series of initiatives to boost exports further. Efforts are also being made to effect efficient import substitution particularly in the area of bulk imports.

दिल्ली में जाली अनुसूचित जाति प्रमाण-पत्रों की बिक्री

810. **श्री शरद यादव** : क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि दिल्ली में जाली अनुसूचित जाति प्रमाण-पत्र बेचे जा रहे हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस अवैध व्यापार को रोकने के लिये क्या कदम उठाये हैं ; और

(ग) सरकार अब तक बेचे जा चुके जाली प्रमाणपत्रों के दुरुपयोग को रोकने के लिये क्या प्रयास कर रही है और उनके क्या परिणाम निकले हैं ?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सन्तोष मोहन देव) : (क) से (ग) दिल्ली प्रशासन के अनुसार, अनुसूचित जाति के जाली प्रमाण-पत्र का एक मामला ध्यान में आया है । यह पता चलने पर कि अनुसूचित जाति के प्रमाण पत्रों के कुछ जाली फार्म उपायुक्त कार्यालय से गुम हैं, प्रमाण-पत्रों को जारी करने से संबंधित दो व्यक्तियों को निलम्बित कर दिया गया है । दो कार्यकर्ताओं को पुलिस हिरासत में लिया गया और उसके बाद निलम्बित कर दिया गया । मामला दिल्ली पुलिस को भेज दिया गया है । प्रशासन ने राष्ट्रीय दैनिक समाचार-पत्रों में गुम अनुसूचित जाति के प्रमाण-पत्रों के खाली फार्मों के समस्त नम्बर देते हुए नोटिस दिया है ।

सभी संबंधित विभागों को इनका दुरुपयोग रोकने की दृष्टि से इस संबंध में सूचित कर दिया गया है। अनुसूचित जाति के प्रमाण-पत्रों के खाली फार्म आंध एस०डी०एम० रैंक के अधिकारी की व्यक्तिगत निगरानी में रखे गये हैं। कर्मचारियों को बदल दिया गया है।

Kandla Free Trade Zone

811. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the import/export figures for the last three years and so far for the current year pertaining to the Kandla Free Trade Zone; and

(b) the exports in terms of money to the USSR during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) The details of imports and exports for the last three years and the current year relating to the Kandla Free Trade Zone and of exports made from the zone to the USSR are as follows:

Year	Imports (Capital goods and raw materials)	Exports to SSR (Figures in Rs. lakhs)	
1985-86	14109.52	23685.68	22043.15
1986-87	15037.34	23626.68	21287.12
1987-88	10423.52	18503.15	15274.40
1988-89 (upto 30-6-1988)	4465.79	7159.59	6035.36

Sickness Insurance Scheme for Small Scale Units

812. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry have suggested that a sickness Insurance Scheme should be formulated and introduced by the Reserve Bank to safeguard the interests of small scale units as well as that of the financial institutions and other concerned parties;

(b) whether the FICCI has made the suggestion after having extensive survey relating to the causes of sickness;

(c) whether the Central Government have also examined the suggestion; and

(d) to what extent the suggestion made for revamping small scale sector has been agreed to by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) It has been brought to notice that Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has produced a Survey regarding sickness in Small Scale Industry. A suggestion has been made therein that a Sickness Insurance Scheme may be formulated and introduced by the Reserve Bank of India to safeguard the interests of small Units as well as those of financial institutions and other concerned parties.

(b) The survey has been reportedly made after obtaining information